And the *Leſſer Tone*, that of 10 to 9, or 20 to 18, may be in like manner divided into that of 20 to 19, and that of 19 to 18: That is, $\frac{20}{19} \times \frac{19}{18} = \frac{20}{18} = \frac{10}{9}$.

Which Diviſions of the *Greater* and *Leſſer* Tone, anſwer to what is wont to be deſigned by *Flats* and *Sharps*.

So that (by this Computation,) of theſe Eight Notes, *la, fa ſol la, mi, fa ſol la*; their Proportions ſtand thus; that of *la fa* (or *mi fa*) is as 16 to 15. That of *fa ſol* as 10 to 9, and that of *ſol la* as 9 to 8: (or elſe that of *fa ſol* as 9 to 8, and that of *ſol la* as 10 to 9,) That of *la mi* as 9 to 8. And if either of the Tones (Greater or Leſſer) chance to be divided (by Flats or Sharps) into (what they call) Hemi-tones, their Proportions are to be ſuch as is already mentioned.

There may be a like Diviſion of a Fourth (or *Dia-teſſaron*) into Two *Near equals*: And of ſome others of theſe, into Three *Near-equals*. Which might be of uſe for (what they were wont to call) the *Chromatick* and *Enarmonick* Muſick. But thoſe Sorts of Muſick, having been long ſince laid aſide, there is now no need of theſe Diviſions, as to the Muſick now in uſe.

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## V. *Part of a Letter from* Mr. Ray, *F. R. S. to* Dr. Sloane, *giving an Account of the Poyſonous Qualities of* Hemlock-Water-Drop-Wort.

I Shall now communicate to you, a Story or Two of the direful Effects of *Oenanthe aquatica, Cicutæ facie ſucco Viroſo* of *Lobel*, which we may Engliſh *Hemlock-Water-Dropwort*, upon ſeveral Perſons that eat of the Roots of it, ſent me not long ſince in a Letter from Dr. *Francis Vaughan*, a Learned Phyſitian in *Ireland*, living at *Clonmell*, in the County of *Tipperary*. This Gentleman obſerving me, notwithſtanding what Dr. *Johnſon* in his *Gerardus emaculatus*, and *Lobel* in his *Adverſaria*

*ſaria* had written of the venenoſe Quality of this Plant, to be ſomewhat doubtful of it in my *Synopſis Methodica Stirpium Britannicarum*, for my full Satisfaction and Conviction, wrote the following Abſtract of a Hiſtory drawn up by a Perſon, who is at preſent his Brother-in-law, concerning the Effects of it upon himſelf, and Seven other Young Men, who ignorantly miſtaking it for *Sium aquaticum*, or *Apium Paluſtre*, did eat of it.

Eight Young Lads went one Afternoon a fiſhing to a Brook in this Country, and there meeting with a great Parcel of *Oenanthe Aquatica ſucco viroſo*, (in Iriſh *Tahow*) they miſtook the Roots of it for *Sium aquaticum* Roots, and did eat a great deal of them. About four or Five Hours after going home, the Eldeſt of them, who was almoſt of Man's Stature, without the leaſt previous appearing Diſorder or Complaint, on a ſudden fell down backwards, and lay kicking and ſprawling on the Ground, his Countenance ſoon turned very Ghaſtly, and he foamed at the Mouth. Soon after Four more were ſeized the ſame way, and they all died before Morning, not one of them having ſpoken a Word from the Moment in which the venenate Particles ſurpriſed the *Genus Nervoſum*. Of the other Three One ran ſtark Mad, but came to his right Reaſon again the next Morning. Another had his Hair and Nails faln off, and the Third (who is my Brother-in-law) alone eſcaped without receiving any Harm: Whether he eat leſs of this fatal Root, or whether his Conſtitution, which is to this Day very Athletick, occaſioned it, I cannot tell. Though I am of Opinion, that his ſpeedy running above Two Miles Home, after that he ſaw the firſt Young Man fall, together with his Drinking a very large Draught of Milk, warm from the Cow in his Mid-way, were of ſingular uſe to him. For his Violent Sweating did doubtleſs expel and carry off many of the venenoſe Particles, and had a better Effect

than perhaps, the beſt of our Alexipharmicks (which you know are generally Diaphoretick) might have produced in this Caſe. Beſides, I believe the Draught of warm Milk did act its part, by involving the Acid or Acrimonious Poiſonous Particles, and rendring them unactive, and preventing their ſeizing the *Genus Nervoſum*, till they were expelled *per Diaphoreſin*. But this is but my Conjecture, which I willingly ſubmit to more mature Judgments. This happened about Thirty Years ago; but there are many yet alive, who aſſert the Truth of it, having been Eye witneſſes of this dreadful Tragedy. There was alſo a Dutch-man, about Two Years ſince, within Eight Miles of this Place, Poyſoned by boyling and eating the Tops of this Plant, ſhred into his Pottage; he was ſoon after found dead in his Boat, and his little Iriſh Boy gave Account of the Cauſe of his Death, to be eating this Herb, which he forewarned his Maſter againſt, but in vain, the Dutch-man aſſerting, that it was good Sallade in his Country; ſo that I believe he took it for *Apium Paluſtre*, which its Leaves much reſemble. Thus far Dr. *Vaughan*.

Several Parallel and no leſs Tragical Hiſtories of later Date, of the miſerable Deſtruction of divers Perſons, by the eating of the Roots of this pernicious and deleterious Plant, I find recorded by *Jacobus Wepferus*, in his Book *de Noxis Cicutæ aquaticæ*, and in the *Miſcellanea curioſa* or *Ephemerides German. Dec.* 2. *An.* 6. *Obſerv.* 116.

Wherefore I think it is for the Intereſt of Mankind that all Perſons be ſufficiently cautioned againſt venturing to eat of this, and indeed any other unknown Herb or Root, leſt they incur the ſame Fate; and in order thereto, that ſuch Hiſtories be made Publick and tranſmitted to Poſterity.

VI. *Several*